My name is Thomas E. Lambright, Jr. during my undergraduate studies I started out as engineering major. By my three year of college, I developed a keen interest in mathematics, switched majors and earned a B.S. in Mathematics. I discovered that I could use this major in teaching mathematics at the High School and Junior High School levels. I find math interesting to both learn and teach. I later decided to continue my education and earned a Master’s of Science in Education at the secondary level.

During the time I worked towards the Masters Degree, I taught from the elementary levels through high school. As the years went by, I realized that there was a great deal of investment and growth in the technology industry. It was clear that technology was here to stay so to speak. I found myself using it every day. The conclusion which I reached was that I wanted to pursue additional courses in technology education to become more proficient in teaching with it as well as keeping up with the current trends in technology.

An opportunity occurred which encouraged our staff members to write a technology grant. We had a great need to update our school technology and connectivity. The grant was provided by the state in which we worked and the grant would last for three years. I was selected to become one of the grant writers due to my love and interest in technology.

We succeeded in writing this grant. As a result, we were able to provide the school with 60 laptops, 4 heavy duty printers, and 15 digital cameras. In addition, the staff received training in teaching technology by means of hiring a part-time technology facilitator obtained with the use of the grant funds. As a result of this technology expansion and content knowledge, I took advantage of another opportunity which was to obtain a Masters Degree in Curriculum Instruction and Technology. I obtained a second masters degree 100% online with enrollment at Grand Canyon University.

The additional training gave me the opportunity to teach technology from grades three to five as a computer teacher. As part of the group which worked on writing a technology grant with my coworkers, I gained a greater insight about teaching Microsoft software such as Word, PowerPoint and Publisher just to name a few. Although the grant ended by the third year and budget cuts have reduced our district technology department to a tenth of what it used to be, a great love for technology still remains within me.

More recently, I had a position as an instructional math coach. This was a step up for me in that it gave me greater responsibility of leadership. I no longer had a classroom and found myself meeting with teachers to model teaching strategies with teacher and student present and conducting meeting with administration in attendance. While it was a totally new experience for me, and I made my share of mistakes for lack of experience, I totally loved the position. Due to budget restraints, the position that I was part of was out sourced to an outside contractor. While I was somewhat disappointed, I realized how vulnerable I was to economic down turns.

I have concluded that I will need more than just a job as my source of income. My own business would be needed as well; a business would create another stream of income in my direction. Presently, I have returned as a computer teacher at the Middle school level this time. Of course, I am grateful for a job but still have my eyes open for the next opportunity to advance in technology.

My first exposed experience with e-learning as a learner was with the training I received from the technology facilitator when we wrote the grant. A second e-Learning opportunity as a learner came to me during the time I was enrolled at Grand Canyon University. Presently, my continued e-Learning experience as a learner is taking place as an online student at Northcentral University.

On the other hand, my experience with e-Learning from an instructor’s point of view is growing. The experience as a computer teacher has provided me with a greater level of experience as an e-learning instructor. As my experience in the field of technology grows, more technology instructional skills are developed.

What I hope to gain from this course is to develop the ability to research the future of e-learning, and work as a consultant for a cutting edge e-learning organization. Having knowledge and experience with ethical and legal online issues will prove to be very helpful in my pursuit of e-Learning growth. As I had mentioned before, I enjoy technology. I also realized that I must grow with technology by keeping abreast of the latest trends. It is also imperative to make sure that I provide a service that is needed and in demand with regards technology education. It will require that I take on additional subjects to teach as well as see new trends and capitalize on what I can offer the public.

Finally after obtaining a doctorate degree, I would like to develop and implement a K-12 on-line school. I have done some research on this matter and find it interesting. It is my plan to first work for a virtual school, developing a product or service that the virtual school can purchase, use or market. It may occur that I will need to bring the product or service to the market on my own without the assistance from the school. I do not believe in reinventing the wheel. I have just concluded that there are ways of doing things more effectively for better results.